

[27 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, an autonomous body under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the internal supply line of diamonds in Gujarat was affected for about 10 days after the earthquake on 26th January, 2001. The attendance of workers was affected due to continuous tremors during that period. Normalcy was restored in Surat within about a fortnight after the earthquake. Normalcy was restored in the diamond industry in Ahmedabad within a month of the earthquake. Government of India, State Government of Gujarat and voluntary organisations including those from the diamond industry have moved in with relief work and for rehabilitation of those affected by the earthquake.

(c) Export of diamonds (cut and polished) as per information maintained by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council during the last five years were as follows:—

Year	Export Value in Rs. (Crores)
1996-97	14916.50
1997-98	16579.45
1998-99	21074.12
1999-2000	28706.51
2000-2001	28000.74 (Provisional)

Revising royalty on Coal, Chromite and Bauxite

4674. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) when the Government of India had revised the royalty on Coal, Chromite and Bauxite and whether the next revision is already due;

(b) the date and other details of last revision of royalty on Coal, Chromite, Bauxite by the Orissa Government; and

(c) whether Government intend to revise the royalty on Coal, Bauxite and Chromite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES

(SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PAUL): (a) to (c) Under Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR), the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule to the Act so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification, provided that the Central Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of three years. The rates of royalty for all minerals included in the Second Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 are applicable across the States with effect from the date of the revision, as specified in the Central Government Notification(s).

Royalty on Coal is revised by the Ministry of Coal whereas the royalty on Chromite and Bauxite is revised by the Ministry of Mines. Royalty rates on Coal were last revised on 11.10.94 and royalty rates for Chromite and Bauxite were recently revised on 12.9.2000.

Sale of Aluminium by NALCO to Pennar Aluminium Company.

4675. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that NALCO had signed an agreement with Pennar Aluminium Co. Ltd. for sale of Aluminium metal;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that NALCO had supplied 5850 MT metal, till 1997;
- (c) how much amount is outstanding upto now; and
- (d) what action has been taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has supplied a total quantity of 29589 MT between 1993 to 1997.

- (c) The outstanding principal amount till now is Rs. 34.39 crore.
- (d) The arbitration proceedings against M/s Pennar Aluminium